

IDAHO COMMUNITY TREES

News You
Can Use

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Summer
2006

A NEWS BULLETIN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS—COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM AND THE IDAHO COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Looking for evidence about the value of trees?
Look no more – read on below!*

Coordinator's Column

Everything (Almost) You Need to Know About Community Tree Values

— New CD Consolidates Huge Knowledge Base on Tree Benefits

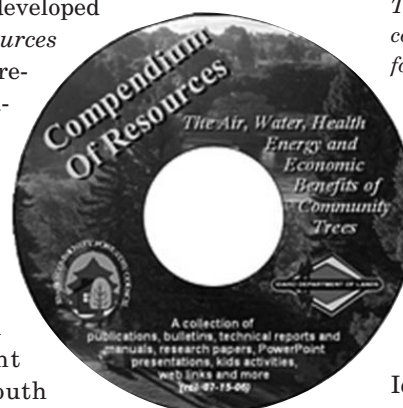
Trees are good! This is the slogan adopted by the International Society of Arboriculture for their consumer-oriented public relations campaign. Few would disagree with this statement, but the question is – just *how* good are they?

Research completed over the past two decades has tried to answer this question by quantifying the benefits and their economic impact. A summary of one study mentioned on page 2, for example, found that mature trees shading a street can reduce by 60% the number of resurfacings that street will need over a 30-year period, saving a community a great deal of money. But if you wanted to learn more about this, where would you go? What if you want to plant trees more strategically to reduce stormwater runoff? Where would you find the best management practices on how best to do this? Perhaps you heard somewhere that views of trees from a workplace or school can decrease sick days taken by 25% while increasing productivity...but you don't recall where you heard or read it. Unfortunately, while there is a great deal of information "out there," it's in a lot of different places and not always easy to locate.

In an effort to consolidate this tremendous knowledge base, the Idaho Department of Lands Community

Forestry Program has developed a *Compendium of Resources CD*, with roughly 100 resources on the air, water, health, energy and economic benefits of trees. These resources include fact sheets, bulletins, research papers, lay articles, technical reports and manuals, PowerPoint presentations and youth activities.

The information in this unique CD is accessed through a web browser with a series of hyperlinked pages – one on each of the major topic areas noted above. On each page, the resources are organized by type of material (articles, bulletins, etc.). For each resource there is a brief description of what it is. Clicking on the title will open that resource in a new window. Most of the resources listed are right on the CD and are in the public domain. This means that you can print, copy and distribute these as you wish. The few that have copyright restrictions are noted. Also included with the description of each item is a link to the internet location of the organization that created it should you want to pursue the topic further.



This unique compilation of urban forestry information is available free.

This CD was created to be a working, useful tool throughout Idaho and beyond. It provides not only specific

information on tree benefits,

but also how to most affectively apply this information to maximize these benefits for your community.

If you would like a copy of the CD, please send me an e-mail or give me a call at the address or phone number found in the masthead on page two. There is no charge for the CD and we are shooting for a July 15th release date. Trees ARE good—and now you can find out just how much!

— David Stephenson

Community Forestry Coordinator

Salmon Enhances Hockey Rink on Arbor Day

The Salmon hockey rink will henceforth be known as Hockey Park thanks to the Arbor Day tree planting efforts of the city's tree committee, 50 volunteers, and a consortium of helpful partners. The project resulted in 28 conifers adding beauty and, someday, wind protection to the perimeter of the rink.

The Saturday morning project ended with an Arbor Day ceremony and barbeque lunch. Mayor Stan Davis, one of the workers who helped plant and spread mulch, accepted the Tree City USA flag and plaque from



More than 50 volunteers turned out to help plant trees around Salmon's outdoor hockey rink last Arbor Day.

Photo by Jenny Westling

Community Forestry Assistant Gerry Bates. The mayor said the project was possible thanks to trees purchased by Idaho Power Company and to a grant from the Idaho Department of Lands. Other partners in the project included local businesses, BLM and Forest Service employees, Good Earth Gardens, and the Salmon Valley Hockey Association.

Mayor Davis concluded that the effort is an example of why Salmon has been named one of the 100 Best Communities for Youth in the nation.

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Idaho's Arbor Day Poster Contest Winner

The proud winner of the 2006 Arbor Day poster contest is Makayla Greene, from Big Valley Elementary School in Rupert. The young artist received a \$200 savings bond and her teacher was awarded \$100 for classroom supplies. Makayla's art was displayed in the capitol and she planted a Kwanzan cherry across the street by the post office. Students from Taft Elementary School participated in the planting and a plaque commemorates the happy occasion. Another donated tree was planted in Makayla's honor at her school. Makayla's art portrays the theme of this year's contest – "Trees are Terrific in all Shapes and Sizes."

To assure that students in your school are included in the next poster contest, check the IDL – Community Forestry website or contact Debbie Cook (see masthead).



Fifth grader Makayla Greene proudly displays her poster and winner's certificate in the Idaho state capitol. This annual program is sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation, and, in Idaho, by the Idaho Forest Products Commission and the Idaho Department of Lands, and takes tree education to thousands of young people.

Photo by Michelle Youngquist

Shade Saves Street Surfaces

If you want to save money on street repairs, let trees shade the surface. USDA Forest Service researchers used 48 street segments in Modesto, California, and divided them into high-shade and low-shade pairs. Over a 30-year period, about two thirds fewer slurry seals were needed on streets that were highly shaded. The savings in street repairs amounted to approximately \$10 per square foot. Other benefits such as rain water retention, energy savings, and air pollution reduction magnify the practical benefits of street trees even more.

For a more complete report, see the November, 2005, issue of the *Journal of Arboriculture*.

Congratulations to Idaho's Tree City USA Communities

We lost Lapwai, but gained Peck and Victor this year, and welcomed back Potlatch, Smelterville and Sugar City. There are now 71 Idaho communities that have joined some 3,000 communities nationwide in living up to the four standards of the Tree City USA program. For more information, please visit our web site as listed below the Calendar. Shown next to each community is the number of years it has received the Tree City USA award. "G" means it also received a Growth Award this year for going beyond the four basic requirements. A record 23 cities received it this year.

Aberdeen (7)	Malad (7) G
American Falls (6)	McCall (5)
Ammon (4) G	Menan (3)
Ashton (4) G	Meridian (4)
Bellevue (4)	Moscow (13) G
Blackfoot (6)	Mountain Home (8)
Boise (28) G	Mt. Home Air Force Base (9)
Buhl (9)	Nampa (8) G
Burley (6) G	New Plymouth (6)
Caldwell (27)	Nez Perce County (5)
Challis (6)	Nezperce (3)
Chubuck (4)	Orofino (6) G
Coeur d'Alene (22)	Payette (7) G
Deary (3)	Peck (1)
Downey (9) G	Pocatello (9) G
Driggs (4) G	Post Falls (9) G
Dubois (4)	Potlatch (4)
Eagle (14) G	Rexburg (2)
Emmett (5)	Rockland (7)
Filer (7)	Rupert (6) G
Garden City (6)	Salmon (4)
Hagerman (5)	Samaria (9)
Hayden (4)	Sandpoint (10)
Heyburn (9)	Shelley (5)
Idaho Falls (14) G	Smelterville (3)
Inkom (7) G	Soda Springs (5)
Iona (3)	St. Anthony (3) G
Jerome (8) G	Sugar City (3)
Kamiah (6) G	Twin Falls (8) G
Kellogg (8)	Ucon (6)
Kendrick (9)	Victor (1)
Ketchum (2) G	Wallace (3)
Kimberly (3)	Weiser (6)
Kuna (15)	Wendell (3)
Lava Hot Springs (5)	Tree Line USA Utilities
Lewiston (18) G	Idaho Power (10 years)
Mackay (9)	Pacificorp (5 years)

Calendar

July 29-August 2

International Society of Arboriculture Annual Conference and Trade Show, Minneapolis, MN. (Contact Jessica Marx, (888) 472-8733, or visit www.isa-arbor.com)

September 28 - October 1

Pacific Northwest Chapter ISA Annual Training Conference, Redmond, WA. (Contact PNW-ISA, (503) 874-8263, or info@pnwisa.org)

October 1 - 4

Society of Municipal Arborists Annual Conference, Asheville, NC. (Contact Jerri LaHaie at urbanforestry@prodigy.net)

Upcoming Arborist Certification Exams

July 8 — Boise, ID – morning exam
 August 5 — Redmond, OR – morning exam
 September 23 — Pocatello, ID – morning exam
 September 28 — Redmond, WA – morning exam

Upcoming Certified Tree Worker Exams

July 8 — Boise, ID

For information or to register, contact: Pacific Northwest Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture at 503/874-8263 or 217-355-9411 or email: info@pnwisa.org.

Keep Up-to-Date – Bookmark Our Website

Your access to the world of trees and community forestry in Idaho is as close as your keyboard. Please visit us and bookmark www.idl.idaho.gov/bureau/community_forestry/home.

- 🌳 Technical information and help
- 🌳 Arborist and Tree Worker Certification
- 🌳 Upcoming Events
- 🌳 Grant Opportunities
- 🌳 Tree City USA Directory
- 🌳 Arbor Day Poster Contest
- 🌳 Newsletter – Current and Past Editions
- 🌳 And...much, much more!



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Tree tip

Post Script from the Editor



Where have we failed?

I wondered this as my family and I stopped for a picnic in a southwest Idaho city park while traveling across the state. Since 1996 we have been mailing multiple copies of these newsletters free to all communities, yet there in that park were poorly pruned trees and a defective one near a play area. There were even 15- to 20-foot thornless honeylocusts trimmed all over like a rounded hedge. There was no apparent reason for this other than someone had access to a lift truck and a power saw.

Two weeks later I interviewed a city park manager who is responsible for trees in one of our resort cities. He had never seen a copy of our newsletter.

The Idaho Community Forestry Council and the Idaho Department of Lands Community Forestry Program do their best to provide life-saving, cost-saving, tree-saving information through this newsletter, our three community forestry assistants, workshops, and other means. ***But we need your help.*** Somehow the information is not getting to all who work on community trees or make decisions about them. Please do your part by distributing the newsletters to all tree workers in your organization. If you need more, just let us know.